

# LEARNING FOR LIFE

A Program for Education



- **School-to-Careers**
- **Character Education Activities**
- **Special Education Program**
- **Training for Educators**
- **Local, Professional Support**
- **Partnering With Business and Civic Leaders**
- **Scholarship Opportunities**



# Learning for Life

Teaching Youth How to Answer Life's Toughest Questions

**L**earning for Life is an educational program designed to meet the needs of youth and schools. It helps youth meet the challenge of growing up by teaching character and good decision-making skills and then linking those skills to the real world.

Developed by professional educators and child-development experts, the Learning for Life curriculum has three basic components: school-based learning, connecting activities, and work-based learning. Combined, these components provide a structure through which youth learn the value of respect and responsibility while discovering a world of career opportunities.



## School-Based Learning

The school-based program begins with lesson plans that emphasize character and citizenship. Later, youth are taught the skills they need to get and keep a job and are introduced to a range of career options through classroom exercises, seminars, and workshops.

## Work-Based Learning

The work-based portion of Learning for Life builds on the character lessons and brings the world of work alive by offering youth participants the opportunity to learn first-hand about career fields through the Exploring program.

## Connecting Activities

Connecting the community with educational institutions is one hallmark of Learning for Life. By involving local organizations, businesses, and industry, the program helps build relationships between schools and the community. This collaboration provides additional resources and opportunities for youth, educators, and schools.

## Localized Training

Training is important to the success of any program; that's why Learning for Life provides localized training and support from experienced professionals.

## Elementary Program: Starting Out Right

**L**earning for Life's kindergarten through sixth-grade curriculum consists of 60 lesson plans designed to reinforce social, ethical, and academic skills in areas such as critical and creative thinking, character education activities, interpersonal relationships, soft skills, practical living skills, building self-worth, writing and other language arts, and participating citizenship.

Lesson plans include themes such as

- Accepting Consequences
- Ethnic Heritage
- Sticking to What's Right
- Conservation
- Gangs
- Never Give Up

## Junior High School/Middle School Program: Discovering Careers

**T**he junior high school/middle school program begins Learning for Life's school-to-careers emphasis. The program provides community role models to motivate and interact with youth and share their personal paths to success, including the pitfalls and the high points. The program also includes a series of 50 interactive workshops that help youth develop and assess the personal skills and values needed to make future career choices.





## Senior High School Program: Real-World Skills

**T**he senior high school program continues Learning for Life's school-to-career emphasis with 35 interactive workshops that teach the practical skills necessary for youth to acquire a job and stay employed. The workshops are followed by a series of career seminars presented by community representatives who offer students in-depth understanding and firsthand knowledge of the career fields they've chosen.

### Topics include

- Job Applications and Writing Résumés
- Job Interviews
- Employer and Labor Relations
- Women in the Workforce
- Ethics in the Workforce



*The Learning for Life program offers exciting activities that help teach life and career skills, like this interactive CD-ROM educational tool, Life Choices, for senior high school youth.*

**Visit Learning for Life on the Web at  
[www.learning-for-life.org](http://www.learning-for-life.org)**

*Developed by professional educators and child development leaders, the Learning for Life program offers more than 145 lesson plans designed specifically to teach character and to tie those lessons to real-world applications.*

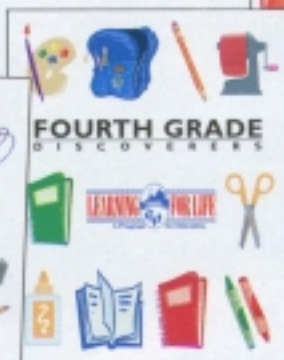
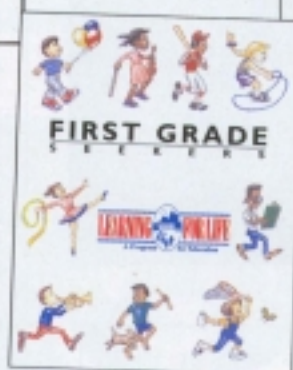
## Special-Needs Program

**T**he special-needs curriculum teaches youth with disabilities the life skills they need to achieve self-sufficiency. To meet the various levels of disabilities schools encounter, the program can be tailored to meet the needs of individual students.



### Areas covered include

- Self-concept. Youth develop an awareness of personal, social, and civic responsibility.
- Personal/social skills. Emphasize ways emotions affect the behavior of self and others.
- Life skills. Teaches skills for independent living, including personal hygiene, meal preparation, and job preparedness training.



## Exploring: Putting It All Together

**L**earning for Life brings school-based learning and work-based learning together in a worksite education program called Exploring. Exploring provides experiences that help young people mature and prepare them to become responsible and caring adults. Designed for young men and women ages 14 (and who have completed the eighth grade) through 20, Exploring allows young people to get hands-on experience in a career field of their choice working with professionals in that field.

### Young Adults Involved in Exploring

- Gain practical knowledge of and experience in a career
- Engage in a program of activities centered on career opportunities, life skills, service learning, character development, and leadership experience to encourage the development of the whole person
- Are given opportunities to take on leadership roles



**Exploring**  
A Program for Career Education



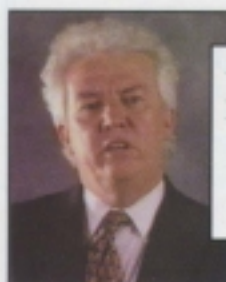
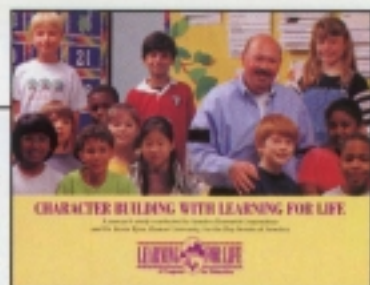
## Learning for Life Works!

A recent study\* of approximately 2,500 second-, fourth-, and sixth-grade students from 59 urban, suburban, and rural schools showed that Learning for Life can have a significant impact on the lives of young people.

### Key Findings From the Study

- Teachers in the Learning for Life classes reported significant improvements in the behavior of their students.
- Students answering post-test questionnaires showed a better understanding of concepts, including making good decisions, manners and interpersonal relationships, learning from mistakes, avoiding violence, honesty, and community involvement.
- From the pretest to the post-test, Learning for Life classes showed a 20 percent gain in appropriate responses while students in non-Learning for Life classes showed only a 6 percent gain.

\*Study commissioned by Learning for Life and conducted by Syndics Research Corporation and Dr. Kevin Ryan of Boston University.

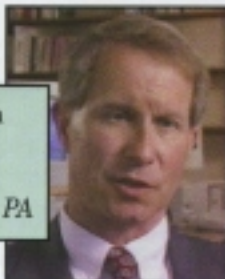


"It is not a passive learning process; it has an emphasis on activities."

*Paul D. Houston, executive director,  
American Association of School  
Administrators*

"Learning for Life curriculum fits in very well with our schoolwide projects."

*Gordon Hoodak, principal, Reading, PA*

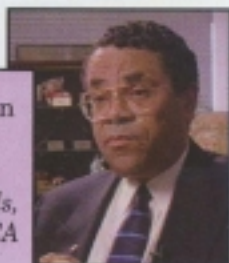


"Helps build bridges to other community organizations."

*Sally Cain, regional representative,  
U.S. Department of Education*

"Learning for Life has helped us in imparting real values to young people."

*Carl Cohn, superintendent of schools,  
Long Beach, CA*



### Scholarship Opportunities

There are more than 50 awards and scholarship opportunities available to youth participating in the Learning for Life Exploring program. For more information on scholarships, visit our Web site.

Comair Aviation Academy Scholarships

Silver Wings Fraternity Scholarship

Sporty's Pilot Shop

International Association of Fire Chiefs  
Foundation

American Veterinary Medical Association

Captain James J. Regan Memorial Scholarship

Drug Abuse Prevention Service Award

FIA Volunteer Service Award

The Floyd Boring Award

ISCCP Community Crime Prevention Award

Sheryl A. Horak Memorial Scholarship

AFL-CIO Scholarships

Visit Learning for Life on the Web at  
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PARTNERSHIP  
for Family  
Involvement  
in Education



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